

**ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE
MEETING NO. 9
SPECIAL MEETING
APRIL 25, 2019**

The Legislature was called to order by Chair Savage.

All members present, except Legislators Mills and Loughran.

An Invocation was held, led by Mr. Lorigo, who requested a moment of silence.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ms. Baskin.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

FROM LEGISLATOR MILLER-WILLIAMS

Item 1 – (COMM. 9E-1) Resignation from the Erie County Legislature

Received, filed and printed.

April 17, 2019

Hon. Michael P. Kearns
Erie County Clerk
92 Franklin Street, First Floor
Buffalo, New York 14202

Re: Resignation from the Erie County Legislature

Dear Mr. Kearns:

Due to my appointment as Interim Comptroller of the City of Buffalo, I hereby resign my position as the Erie County Legislator for the 1st Legislative District effective today, April 17, 2019.

It has been a privilege to represent the residents of the 1st Legislative District in the Erie County Legislature and I look forward to representing the residents in my new capacity as Interim City of Buffalo Comptroller.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and courtesies.

Sincerely,

Barbara Miller-Williams
Erie County Legislator, First Legislative District

Cc: Robert Graber, Clerk of the Legislature

FROM CHAIR SAVAGE

Item 2 – (COMM. 9E-2) Letter to Clerk of Legislature Calling for Special Meeting

Received, filed and printed.

April 23, 2019

Robert M. Graber, Clerk
Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin St., 4th Floor
Buffalo, New York 14202

Dear Mr. Graber:

Please be advised that there is a pressing matter before the Erie County Legislature that needs immediate attention. Therefore, there is a need to call a Special Meeting of the Legislature.

Accordingly, pursuant to Rule 2.02 of the Rules of Order of the Erie County Legislature, you are hereby directed to call a SPECIAL MEETING of the Erie County Legislature to be held on Thursday, April 25, 2019 at 11:00 am in the Chambers of the Legislature, 4th Floor of Old County Hall, 92 Franklin Street, Buffalo, New York.

The purpose of the Special Meeting will be filling the vacancy in the position of Legislator of the First Legislative District.

The items on the agenda of the Special Meeting will include:

- A letter from Legislator Barbara Miller-Williams resigning her position as Legislator for the First Legislative District
- A letter from the Erie County Democratic Committee concerning the Committee's endorsement of an individual to fill that position
- A letter from Majority Leader April Baskin concerning appointing a new Legislator of the First Legislative District
- My letter to you directing the calling of the Special Meeting, and
- Your Memorandum as Clerk of the Legislature to Members of the Legislature calling the Special Meeting

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Peter J. Savage, III
Chair

FROM LEGISLATOR BASKIN

Item 3 – MS. BASKIN presented the following communication and moved for immediate consideration. MR. MEYERS seconded.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

RE: Appointment to Fill Vacancy in the 1st Legislative District
(COMM. 9E-3)

April 23, 2019

Robert M. Graber, Clerk
Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street, Fourth Floor
Buffalo, New York 14202

Re: Appointment to Fill Vacancy in the 1st Legislative District

Dear Mr. Graber:

Please be advised that the Democratic Caucus of the Erie County Legislature will take the necessary measures at the Special Meeting on April 25, 2019 to make an appointment to fill the vacancy resulting from Legislator Barbara Miller-Williams' resignation as First District Legislator.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

April N.M. Baskin
Majority Leader, Legislator 2nd District

MS. BASKIN moved to amend the item. MR. MEYERS seconded.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Insert the following:

April 25, 2019

Robert M. Graber, Clerk
Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street, Fourth Floor
Buffalo, New York 14202

Re: Appointment of Howard Johnson to Fill Vacancy in the 1st Legislative District

Dear Mr. Graber:

Pursuant to Section 2605 of the Erie County Charter, we the undersigned, representing a majority of the members of the Erie County Legislature representing the Democratic Party, do hereby appoint Howard J. Johnson of 49 Pershing Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14211, a duly-qualified elector of the First Legislative District having the same political affiliation as the person last elected to such office, to fill the vacancy in the office of the First Legislative District County Legislator. Said appointment shall take effect on April 25, 2019.

Sincerely,

Peter J. Savage
Legislator, District 3

April N.M. Baskin
Legislator, District 2

John Bruso
Legislator, District 8

Kevin Hardwick
Legislator, District 4

Timothy J. Meyers
Legislator, District 7

CHAIR SAVAGE directed that a roll-call vote be taken, among members of the County Legislature of the party with which the person last elected, on the appointment.

AYES: MS. BASKIN, MR. BRUSO, MR. MEYERS and CHAIR SAVAGE. NOES: None.
(AYES: 4; NOES: 0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MS. BASKIN moved to receive, file and print the communication. MR. RATH seconded.

CHAIR SAVAGE directed that a roll-call vote be taken.

AYES: MS. DIXON, MR. LORIGO, MR. RATH, MS. BASKIN, MR. BRUSO, MR. HARDWICK, MR. MEYERS and CHAIR SAVAGE. NOES: None. (AYES: 8; NOES: 0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE DEPARTMENTS

FROM CLERK OF LEGISLATURE

Item 4– (COMM. 9D-1) Special Meeting Notice for April 25, 2019

Received, filed and printed.

April 23, 2019

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE
FROM: ROBERT M. GRABER, CLERK
SUBJECT: SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE FOR APRIL 25, 2019

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to Rule 2.02 of the RULES OF ORDER OF THE ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE, and under the direction of Chair Peter Savage, there will be a SPECIAL MEETING of the Erie County Legislature on Thursday, April 25, 2019 at 11:00 am in the Chambers of the Legislature, 4th Floor of Old County Hall, 92 Franklin St., Buffalo, New York.

The purpose of the Special Meeting will be filling the vacancy in the position of Legislator of the First Legislative District.

The items on the agenda of the Special Meeting will include:

- A letter from Legislator Barbara Miller-Williams resigning her position as Legislator for the First Legislative District
- A letter from the Erie County Democratic Committee concerning the Committee's endorsement Howard Johnson, Jr. to fill that position
- A letter from Majority Leader April Baskin concerning appointing a new Legislator of the First Legislative District
- Chair Savage's letter directing the calling of the Special Meeting, and
- My Memorandum as Clerk of the Legislature to Members of the Legislature calling t he Special Meeting

The items are attached.

Thank you.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PEOPLE AND OTHER AGENCIES

FROM THE ERIE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE

Item 5 – (COMM. 9M-1) Letter to Clerk of Legislature Concerning Endorsement to Fill Vacancy in 1st Legislative District

Received, filed and printed.

April 22, 2019

Clerk Robert Graber
Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street, 4th Floor
Buffalo, NY 14202

Dear Clerk Graber:

Please be advised that pursuant to the rules of the Erie County Democratic Committee, a meeting of the committee members of the 1st Legislative District was held at 5:45 p.m. on Monday, April 22nd, 2019 at New Covenant United Christ Church, 459 Clinton Street, Buffalo, NY, for the purpose of endorsing a candidate to fill the vacancy in the 1st Erie County Legislative District.

At the meeting, the 1st District Committee members endorsed Howard Johnson, Jr., 49 Pershing Avenue, Buffalo, NY, 14211, to fill the vacancy left in the 1st Erie County Legislative District.

Sincerely,

Jeremy J. Zellner
Chairman

*****Chair Savage called upon Minister Aromde Badger to close out the session with a final prayer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Item 6 – No announcements.

MEMORIAL RESOLUTIONS

Item 7 – Legislator Rath requested that when the Legislature adjourns, it do so in memory of Joanne M. Vossler, Mary C. Salvatore, and John James Lenahan, III.

Item 8 – Legislator Dixon requested that when the Legislature adjourns, it do so in memory of Michael Springer.

Item 9 – Legislator Baskin requested that when the Legislature adjourns, it do so in memory of Charles E. Brice Sr.

ADJOURNMENT

Item 10 - At this time, there being no further business to transact, CHAIR SAVAGE announced that the Chair would entertain a Motion to Adjourn.

MR. JOHNSON moved that the Legislature adjourn until Thursday, May 9, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. MR. LORIGO seconded.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CHAIR SAVAGE declared the Legislature adjourned until Thursday, May 9, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

**ROBERT M. GRABER
CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE**